

Serious Poultry Disease Warning

Postal Employees: You Can Help Stop Exotic Newcastle Disease from Entering Your State

Exotic Newcastle disease is a contagious and fatal disease that affects all species of birds.

This deadly poultry disease has been diagnosed recently in parts of California, Nevada, Arizona, and Texas. These areas are under Federal quarantine, and no birds or bird products are allowed to be shipped via the U.S. Postal Service from these areas. Areas under quarantine include:

California: A portion of Kern County, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura, Orange, Imperial, and Santa Barbara counties;

Nevada: A portion of Clark County;

Arizona: A portion of La Paz County;

Texas: Hudspeth and El Paso counties; and

New Mexico: Otero, Dona Ana, and Luna counties.

If you suspect your post office has received birds or bird products from these quarantined areas, or you suspect a bird has exotic Newcastle disease, contact

your State or Federal animal health authorities immediately. A list of State veterinarians is available at www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/sregs/official.htm, and a list of Federal area veterinarians in charge is found at www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/area_offices.htm.

Take Extra Care with Your Own Birds

Biosecurity is important at home. If you have handled any birds at the post office, thoroughly wash your hands and disinfect your shoes before leaving work, and launder your clothing in hot water before wearing the same clothes around your birds.

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